



NEWS RELEASE

Lt. Col. John Whitford, Director of Communications, Connecticut National Guard
OFFICE: 860.524.4857 CELL: 860.883.5336 FAX: 860.524.4902
EMAIL: JOHN.WHITFORD@US.ARMY.MIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD'S CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM RECEIVES FEDERAL CERTIFICATION

HARTFORD, Conn., - Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard, announces that the 14th Civil Support Team (CST), has been federally recognized by DoD today.

Connecticut is one of 36 CSTs nationwide that have been federally certified by the Secretary of Defense. Also, Connecticut is the fifth out of 12 CST teams in the Phase IV rollout of CST's to receive federal certification that began in FY 04.

"With this federal certification we are now a ready resource and force multiplier available to the Governor and the state to respond to any of a myriad of WMD threats or incidents. We are all proud of the efforts made by each member of the team," said Martin.

A CST is capable of rapidly deploying to a suspected or actual terrorist attack, conducts special reconnaissance activities, with a specialization in weapons of mass destruction, to assess the effects of the terrorist attack and provide situational understanding to command channels, conducts interagency operations to provide technical and consultative operations to advise the local authority on managing the effects of the attack, and minimize the impact on the civilian populace, and assist in facilitating follow-on emergency and military support deploying to execute validated requests for

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assistance by the civil authority.

The mission of a CST is to support civil authorities at a domestic CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and Explosive) incident site by identifying CBRNE agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for state support.

The 14th CST consists of 22 highly skilled, full-time members of the Connecticut Army and Air National Guard who are federally resourced, trained and evaluated.

The 14th CST is located in Windsor Locks and is commanded by Lt. Col. Joseph Danao of Montville.

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